

JEAN ELIOT'S WEEKLY CHRONICLE OF SOCIETY

Fads, Fancies And Foibles of Social Leaders

(Continued from Page Eighteen.)

More or less unofficial in character. They have dined with such old friends as Congressman and Mrs. John Jacob Rogers and Col. and Mrs. George Cyrus Thorpe. To Mrs. James B. Reynolds fell the distinction of being the first to entertain luncheon for Mrs. Coolidge and the last—so far—was Mrs. Robert L. Owen, who had a luncheon yesterday for this exceedingly popular little person.

With Poland's great pianist and statesman—Paderewski—in town and Belgium's great violinist—Ysaÿe—there has naturally been a round of entertaining at the Belgian embassy and the Polish legation. And the British embassy, having had a succession of visitors for inauguration week and into last week—Lady Margaret Scott has only just left to return to Ottawa, and Lady Goddard's sister, Miss Muriel Rosa, is with her now—has been exceedingly gay. But for all that, the most popular in and outdoor sport has been keeping tab on the President and

Mrs. Harding and watching the members of the new Administration.

CABINET HOSTESSES ARE GETTING READY.

Most of those who are to be "cabinet hostesses" were entertained madly for a day or two, and then went their way to wherever they came from to see about packing and moving. Mrs. Hughes was here just long enough to be entertained at dinner, jointly with Secretary Hughes, of course, by Justice and Mrs. Mahlon Pitney, but missed the reception at the French embassy at which her husband was the bright particular star. This was a very stately and beautiful function—as all the French Ambassador and Mrs. Jusserand's parties are—and many of the members of the Diplomatic Corps met Mr. Hughes for the first time, at any rate, in a social way, upon this occasion. Mrs. Hughes does not expect to return to Washington until early in April, when the street they have taken in Eighteenth street will be ready for them and their household goods ready for removal from New York.

The Secretary of War and Mrs. Weeks "belong" in Washington, of course. The "Falls" (interior) are they're apartment hunting—as are the Wallaces (Agriculture), and Mrs. Herbert Hoover was expected from New York on Friday and presumably arrived. But Mrs. Hays, Mrs. Denby, Mrs. Davis and Miss Alisa Mellong daughter of the Secretary of the Treasury, have all returned to their respective homes to pack, leaving

ing to the man of the family the selection of "suitable quarters."

DENBY TO BE DINNER HOST!

By and by the society columns of the Washington newspapers will chronicle a dinner party with the Secretary of the Navy as host, a dinner that will call together nine chums of the new Cabinet officer. Secretary Denby has not set the date and indeed he may not yet know. But he is to give the dinner, but his nine guests have announced that they expect invitations, for are not they the Bachelors of twenty years ago in Detroit and have not they been devoted friends of the "Duke," as they have called him, all this time?

It was when Edwin Denby began to practice law in Detroit that he and the other nine Bachelors took a house in a fashionable neighborhood, and, after employing a housekeeper and a first rate chef, began to make their presence felt in the city. The Bachelors, however, became famous, but in time their many hospitalities ended, for marriage severed the pleasant associations and the Bachelors scattered, each to make fame in his own special vocation. And now Harry Worcester is Vice President of the Big Four, James O. Murfin is a Judge in Michigan, Corporal Alexander is the retired treasurer of the Grand Trunk, Benjamin C. Robinson is a capitalist, William E. Strong is an engineer in New York, Andrew H. Green is Vice President of the Navy Process Company, B. C. Cobb is Vice President of Hadenpyl, Hardy & Co., and Walter M. Parker is a distinguished oculist.

When the important news from Washington reached the nine, telephone messages and telegrams were exchanged. "What do you think of that—the Duke in the Cabinet!" each exclaimed to the other, and then followed joyous comments, for every one loves the Duke. Naturally, the second thought was one of regret—it was too bad that the new Secretary could not appoint nine Assistant Secretaries of the Navy and, indeed, that the nine, in any case, were otherwise engaged! Well, at least, the Duke must give a dinner in Washington that would be a real reunion and it must be a dinner long to be remembered—a historic banquet at which the ten would be young again and live for an evening in memories of the days when all were Bachelors and beginning careers that are now to be mentioned with a capital C.

Young Edwin Denby obtained the title of the Duke because of his towering height and his dominating personality that made him always a leader. He had been a famous football player at the University of Michigan—center rush—and his dash and spirit in the gridiron battles had made his name widely known. So when he was welcomed by his associate Bachelors his friends gave him the nickname that will now represent to them a dignified member of President Harding's Cabinet. Only, of course, Secretary Denby will be always the old-time chum, and there is no doubt that the nine will be prominent at the Thanksgiving Army and Navy football games, for every one interested in sports knows what a stimulating effect the athletic fame of the Secretary will have on the

Navy team. It will mean a lot to have the Bachelors rooting for the Navy, and it may be safe, even at this early date, to wager that the Army will be defeated, unless a counter-inspiration.

IMPORTANT ENGAGEMENT IS ANNOUNCED.

Mi-Careme, supposed to be an oasis of frivolity in a desert of prayer and fasting almost unnoticed—probably because nobody was paying much attention any way to the observance of Lent. "A dull week" one has heard on every side—and perhaps it was in contrast to the almost hectic gaiety of inauguration week. But there were parties galore, many of them of more than passing interest; and last night there was a dinner party at which a most interesting bit of news was made known.

The dinner was given by Mrs. Delos A. Blodgett and the news was the announcement of the engagement of her daughter, Miss Helen Peck Blodgett, to Capt. Henry Parsons Erwin, of Washington and Chicago. The wedding is to take place before very long and the date thereof will be given out later. Captain Erwin has recently resigned from the army and it is probable that he will go into business in the East. At any rate, Miss Blodgett's friends are hoping so, for she's generally and genuinely popular and Washington would hate to lose her. She's a girl who has traveled extensively and is both cultivated and accomplished. A fearless horsewoman, she rides a great deal and she and her mother and sister are members of the Riding and Hunt Club.

Mrs. Blodgett, who came to Washington from Grand Rapids, Mich., has made her home here for a number of years. Miss Blodgett was presented to society several years ago and Miss Mona Blodgett was a debutante of last season.

Of the numerous dances "on" last week, the standing out particularly delightful—Mrs. Breckinridge Long's dance on Wednesday night and Mrs. Charles S. Brownell and Miss Mildred Brownell's party for Lady Margaret Scott the night before. Both were preceded by important dinner parties, and both brought together the smart element of the young married set as well as a lot of pretty girls and their attendant cavaliers. Mrs. Long is spending the spring season in the big and beautiful home which was here the time Mr. Long was serving as Third Assistant Secretary of State, and her husband, now in St. Louis, will join her there early in April. A little later they will pack up their household goods and shake the dust of Washington from their feet—but one hopes that the fortune of war will bring them again to Washington. Mrs. Brownell and Miss Brownell left town almost immediately after their ball. The former will return within a day or two, having only gone over to New York to bid farewell to her daughter. But Miss Brownell sailed yesterday for a two months' trip abroad. She is going over with some cousins, some of the Stevenson clan, I believe, but once landed she is due to make a series of visits in England. She'll be back in time to be bridesmaid at Miss Millicent Rogers' wedding in June.

The party for General Pershing—the most thrilling exhibition drill I ever saw, and a tea dance afterward—took the world and his wife to Fort Myer on Friday afternoon. The entertainment was marked by military pomp and ceremony, and it was beautiful as well as brilliant. Mrs. Rivers, wife of Col. William C. Rivers, commandant of the post, filled the role of hostess most gracefully, and the gen-

eral was, as always, the most gracious and obliging of lions.

The open gates at the White House, which are causing so much favorable comment everywhere, found a counterpart in the open doors of the Congressional Club during inauguration week, for the club was thrown open to the out-of-town guests of members, who were hospitably entertained there every day, and who have now no doubt gone back to tell "the folks at home" what an attractive and interesting place it is. The keynote of the policy of the new Administration, which began its duties almost at the same time with the National Administration, is gracefully and cleverly expressed in the little speech which Mrs. Lenroot made when she accepted the Presidential gavel. "If everyone of us will have a little more of that sense of ownership and pride that comes with responsibility, if we all realize that we need each other, that each one of us has something to give and something to

take, with enthusiasm and devotion and loyalty to our club leaving the whole lump of our body-politic, this Administration cannot fail." This expression of the desire—and the necessity—for co-operation between President and members is a wise and timely one, and if Mr. Lenroot pursues her course along these lines, the Congressional Club, which is already an important factor in official circles here, will inevitably become larger and more powerful still.

JEAN ELIOT.

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